15. (Amended) A fuel cell, comprising:

an anode support plate and a cathode support plate and a membrane electrode assembly disposed between said anode and cathode support plates, said membrane electrode assembly comprising a polymer electrolyte membrane, one of said support plates comprising a hydrophilic substrate layer having pores therein;

a water transport plate adjacent to each said hydrophilic substrate layer, said water transport plate having a passageway for a coolant stream and another passageway for a reactant gas stream; and

[means for creating] a source
providing said coolant stream with a
pressure differential between said
[reactant gas] coolant stream and said
[coolant] reactant gas stream such that
the pressure of said [reactant gas] coolant
stream is [higher] lower than the pressure
of said [coolant] reactant gas stream.

20. (Amended) A method of operating a fuel cell comprising an anode support plate and a cathode support plate and a membrane electrode assembly disposed between said anode support plate and said cathode support plate, said

membrane electrode assembly comprising a polymer electrolyte membrane, at least one of said support plates comprising a hydrophilic substrate layer having pores therein, said fuel cell power plant comprising a water transport plate adjacent to each said hydrophilic substrate layer, said water transport plate having a passageway for a coolant stream and another passageway for a reactant gas stream;

characterized by:

[creating] providing said coolant
stream with a predetermined pressure
differential between said [reactant gas]
coolant stream and said [coolant] reactant
gas stream such that the pressure of said
[reactant gas] coolant stream is [higher]
lower than the pressure of said [coolant]
reactant gas stream.

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